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Grammar: Articles, Determiners & Punctuation





ARTICLES

- There are 3 types of Articles: '**A**', '**An**', and '**The**'
- **Articles** are used before nouns.

INDEFINITE ARTICLES (a, an)	DEFINITE ARTICLE (The)
A - It is used before singular & countable nouns. An - It is used before vowels (a, e, i, o, u), and their sounds.	The - It is used to specify any singular or plural noun.

GRAMMAR FOR IELTS



Articles – a, an, the

Use **a**, **an**
for one out of many

Use **a** when the noun
begins with a **consonant**

Example:

a bag

a cat

Exception:

When the **vowel u**
sounds like **you**.

Example:

a university

a utensil

Use **an** when the noun
begins with a **vowel**

Example:

an apple

an umbrella

Exception:

When the **consonant h**
is silent.

Example:

an hour

an honor

Use **the**
for a specific item

Example:

The umbrella in **the** bag

The cat in **the** tree



ACTIVITY

SARAH	BRITAIN
BAT	DOG
BOOK	COMPUTER
LONDON	CAR
TOM	GERMANY

Be careful!

First we use 'a' or 'an'. After we use 'the'.

Example: She had **a** cheese sandwich and crisps for lunch. She didn't like **the** sandwich.

We stayed in **an** old hotel. There was a swimming pool in **the** hotel.

Ans : Sarah, Britain, London, Tom, Germany- No article – as they are proper nouns

Bat, car, book, dog, computer- A



Choose the correct article: a, an, the or (no article)

1. Are you coming to _____ party next Saturday?
2. I bought _____ new TV set yesterday.
3. I think _____ man over there is very ill. He can't stand on his feet.
4. I watched _____ video you had sent me.
5. She was wearing _____ ugly dress when she met him.
6. I am crazy about reading _____ history books.
7. She is _____ nice girl.
8. Do you want to go to _____ restaurant where we first met?
9. He is _____ engineer.
10. He thinks that _____ love is what will save us all.

Ans:

1. THE
2. A
3. THE,
4. THE
5. AN,
6. NO ARTICLE,
7. A,
8. THE,
9. AN,
10. NO ARTICLE



DETERMINERS

A determiner is used before a noun to specify quantity (e.g., "**one** dog," "**many** dogs") or to clarify what the noun refers to (e.g., "**my** dog," "**that** dog", "**the** dog"). All determiners can be classified as one of the following:

- Article (*a/an, the*)
- Demonstrative (*this, that, these, those*)
- Possessive (*my, your, his, her, its, our, their*)
- Quantifier (*many, much, more, most, some*)

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ARTICLES

a / an
the
zero

NUMERALS

one
two
three

ORDINALS

first
second
third

POSSESSIVES

my
your
his
her
its
our
their

DEMONSTRATIVES

this
that
these
those

QUANTIFIERS

with countable nouns

all
each
few
a few
many
most
several

with uncountable nouns

a little
little
enough
much
some



Examples of determiners in a sentence:

Articles:

- **The** man is behaving so strangely.

Demonstratives:

- **These** apples are good.
- **Those** mangoes are rotten.
- **That** place is so crowded

Possessives:

- **His** father is out of the city.
- Do you know **its** functions?
- Are you going to **their** house?
- It's **my** book.
- Which is **your** car?
- This is the person **whose** name is written here.

Quantifiers:

- Can I eat **some** rice?
- He was our **most** famous president.
- We ate **all** the food.

Numerals:

- **There** are **three** dogs in the street.
- Each team consists of **eleven** players.

Ordinal:

- They invited me to a **second** interview.



Fill the following blanks with correct determiner:

1. I would like to ask _____ questions.
2. I didn't find _____ there.
3. Very _____ politicians are honest.
4. Only _____ politicians are honest.
5. _____ agreed to come with me.
6. She doesn't have _____ friends.
7. I have _____ to help me.
8. There are _____ birds on the tree.
9. Does _____ know the answer?
10. I don't have _____ money.

a) Few b) a few c) the few

a) No one b) anyone c) someone

a) Few b) a few c) the few

a) Few b) a few c) the few

a) No one b) anyone c) someone

a) Much b) Many

a) No one b) anyone c) someone

a) Few b) many c) much

a) Anybody b) anyone c) somebody

a) Any b) much



Punctuation Marks

- Punctuation marks are symbols that are used to aid clarity and comprehension of written language.
- Common punctuation marks are the period (Full stop), comma, question mark, exclamation mark, apostrophe, quotation and hyphen.

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SEMICOLON	COMMA (Let's eat Grandpa. Let's eat, Grandpa!)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Connects two independent clauses when they are related to each other.✓ Example: Let's go to the library to study; it's the only place where I can concentrate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Before Coordinating conjugation when we connect two independent clauses.✓ Example: Let's go to the library to study, for it's the only place where I can concentrate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ If items in the list already contains commas.✓ Example: There are basically two ways to write: with a pen or pencil, which is inexpensive and easily accessible; or by computer and printer, which is more expensive but quick and neat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Between dependent and independent clauses.✓ Example: Because it's the only place where I can concentrate, I prefer going to the library to study.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ With conjunctive Adverbs – moreover, however, nevertheless, however, otherwise, therefore, then, finally, likewise, and consequently.✓ Example: The students had been advised against walking alone at night; however, Mary decided walking wasn't dangerous if it was early in the evening.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ To set off non-essential clauses/phrases.✓ Example: Maggie ordered frozen yogurt, which she thinks is healthier, instead of ice cream.



Colon before a Quotation

You can use a colon before a quotation...



1 when the introduction is an independent clause

He always gave the same advice: "hands-off management."

independent clause



2 when the quotation is a sentence

He always said: "Adopt a hands-off-management style."



sentence



Punctuate the following sentences:

1. He is not really nice looking and yet he has enormous charm
2. When I was a child I could watch TV whenever I wanted to
3. It is a fine idea let us hope that it is going to work
4. Mrs. Solomon who was sitting behind the desk gave me a big smile
5. We were believe it or not in love with each other
6. I don't like this one bit said Julia
7. Have you met our handsome new financial director
8. If you are ever in London come and see you
9. Michael in the Ferrari was cornering superbly
10. Looking straight at her he said I cant help you



Answers:

1. He is not really nice-looking, and yet he has enormous charm.
2. When I was a child, I could watch TV whenever I wanted to.
3. It is a fine idea; let us hope that it is going to work.
4. Mrs Solomon, who was sitting behind the desk, gave me a big smile.
5. We were, believe it or not, in love with each other.
6. 'I don't like this one bit,' said Julia.
7. Have you met our handsome new financial director?
8. If you are ever in London, come and see you.
9. Michael, in the Ferrari, was cornering superbly. 10. Looking straight at her, he said, 'I can't help you.'